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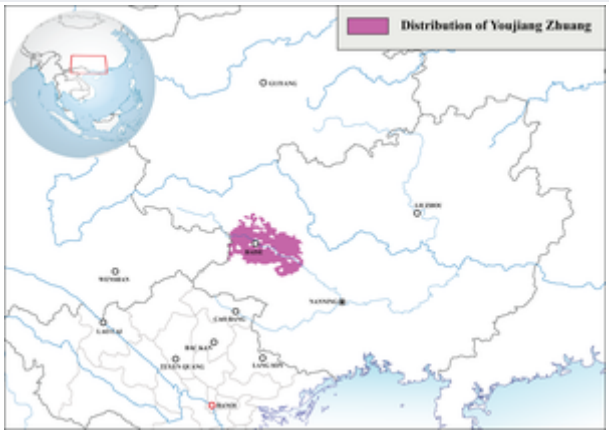
Youjiang Zhuang

Youjiang Zhuang, named after the Youjiang River in Guangxi, China, is a Northern Tai or Zhuang Language spoken in Tiandong County, Tianyang County, parts of the Youjiang District in Baise, Guangxi.

Youjiang Zhuang	
Gangjdoj	
 Geographic distribution of Youjiang Zhuang	
Native to	China
Region	Guangxi
Native speakers	870,000 (2007)[1]
Language family	Kra–Dai ▪ Tai ▪ Northern Tai (Northern Zhuang) ▪ **Youjiang Zhuang**
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	zyj
Glottolog	youj1238 (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/youj1238)[2]

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History and classification

Native speakers refer to the language as *Gangjdoj*, which means "the local language".

André-Georges Haudricourt in 1956 included the language of Tianzhou, the county seat of Tiangyang under Dioi, his name for Northern Zhuang.[3]

Based on data from the 1950s Guangxi Zhuang language survey, Tiandong, Tianyang and a suburb of Baise City were grouped together. This grouping was sometimes called *Tianyangnese* (Chinese:田阳音系). In the 1999 *A Study of Zhuang Dialects* this group was referred to as the Youjiang language (Chinese:右江土语),[4] and in 2007 Youjiang Zhuang was added as a separate language to *Ethnologue*.[1]

Phonology

Youjiang Zhuang has 10 tones, and can be considered as having 20 initials and 83 finals, though some speakers pronounce the initials /ʔb/ and /ʔd/ as /m/ and /n/ respectively.[5]

Writing System

Youjiang Zhuang has two main writing systems characters and romanization.

References

1. Youjiang Zhuang (https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/zyj/) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Youjiang Zhuang" (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/youj1238). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. Haudricourt, André-Georges (1956). "De la restitution des initiales dans les langues monosyllabiques : le problème du thai commun". *Bulletin de la Société de Linguistique de Paris* (52): 307–322.
4. Zhang Junru (张均如). *Zhuàngyǔ Fāngyán Yánjiù (*壮语方言研究*)* [*A Study of Zhuang dialects*]. p. 30. ISBN 7-5409-2293-1.
5. Zhang Junru (张均如). *Zhuàngyǔ Fāngyán Yánjiù (*壮语方言研究*)* [*A Study of Zhuang dialects*]. pp. 62–65. ISBN 7-5409-2293-1.

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